State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature First Regular Session 2007

SENATE BILL 1349

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-2101, 32-2124, 32-2125, 32-2129, 32-2130, 32-2131, 32-2132, 32-2136, 32-2153 AND 32-2160.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 32-2101, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2101. <u>Definitions</u>

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Acting in concert" means evidence of collaborating to pursue a concerted plan.
- 2. "Advertising" means the attempt by publication, dissemination, exhibition, solicitation or circulation, oral or written, or for broadcast on radio or television to induce directly or indirectly any person to enter into any obligation or acquire any title or interest in lands subject to this chapter including the land sales contract to be used and any photographs, drawings or artist's presentations of physical conditions or facilities existing or to exist on the property. Advertising does not include:
- (a) Press releases or other communications delivered to newspapers, periodicals or other news media for general information or public relations purposes if no charge is made by the newspapers, periodicals or other news media for the publication or use of any part of these communications.
 - (b) Communications to stockholders as follows:
 - (i) Annual reports and interim financial reports.
 - (ii) Proxy materials.
 - (iii) Registration statements.
 - (iv) Securities prospectuses.
 - (v) Applications for listing of securities on stock exchanges.
 - (vi) Prospectuses.
 - (vii) Property reports.
 - (viii) Offering statements.
- 3. "Affiliate" means a person who, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the person specified.
- 4. "Associate broker" means a licensed broker employed by another broker. Unless otherwise specifically provided, an associate broker has the same license privileges as a salesperson.
- 5. "Barrier" means a natural or man-made geographical feature that prevents parcels of land from being practicably, reasonably and economically united or reunited and that was not caused or created by the owner of the parcels.
- 6. "Blanket encumbrance" means any mortgage, any deed of trust or any other encumbrance or lien securing or evidencing the payment of money and affecting more than one lot or parcel of subdivided land, or an agreement affecting more than one lot or parcel by which the subdivider holds the subdivision under an option, contract to sell or trust agreement. Blanket encumbrance does not include taxes and assessments levied by public authority.
 - 7. "Board" means the state real estate advisory board.

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- 8. "Broker", when used without modification, means a person who is licensed as a broker under this chapter or who is required to be licensed as a broker under this chapter.
- 9. "Camping site" means a space designed and promoted for the purpose of locating any trailer, tent, tent trailer, pickup camper or other similar device used for camping.
- 10. "Cemetery" or "cemetery property" means any one, or a combination of more than one, of the following in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated for cemetery purposes:
 - (a) A burial park, for earth interments.
 - (b) A mausoleum, for crypt or vault entombments.
- (c) A crematory, or a crematory and columbarium, for cinerary interments.
- (d) A cemetery plot, including interment rights, mausoleum crypts, niches and burial spaces.
- 11. "Cemetery broker" means a person other than a real estate broker or real estate salesperson who, for another, for compensation:
- (a) Sells, leases or exchanges cemetery property or interment services of or for another, or on the person's own account.
- (b) Offers for another or for the person's own account to buy, sell, lease or exchange cemetery property or interment services.
- (c) Negotiates the purchase and sale, lease or exchange of cemetery property or interment services.
- (d) Negotiates the purchase or sale, lease or exchange, or lists or solicits, or negotiates a loan on or leasing of cemetery property or interment services.
- 12. "Cemetery salesperson" means a natural person who acts on the person's own behalf or through and on behalf of a professional limited liability company or a professional corporation engaged by or on behalf of a licensed cemetery or real estate broker, or through and on behalf of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company that is licensed as a cemetery or real estate broker, to perform any act or transaction included in the definition of cemetery broker.
 - 13. "Commissioner" means the state real estate commissioner.
- 14. "Common promotional plan" means a plan, undertaken by a person or a group of persons acting in concert, to offer lots for sale or lease. If the land is offered for sale by a person or group of persons acting in concert, and the land is contiguous or is known, designated or advertised as a common unit or by a common name, the land is presumed, without regard to the number of lots covered by each individual offering, as being offered for sale or lease as part of a common promotional plan. Separate subdividers selling lots or parcels in separately platted subdivisions within a master planned community shall not be deemed to be offering their combined lots for sale or lease as part of a common promotional plan.

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- 15. "Compensation" means any fee, commission, salary, money or other valuable consideration for services rendered or to be rendered as well as the promise of consideration whether contingent or not.
- 16. "Contiguous" means lots, parcels or fractional interests that share a common boundary or point. Lots, parcels or fractional interests are not contiguous if they are separated by either of the following:
 - (a) A barrier.
- (b) A road, street or highway that has been established by this state or by any agency or political subdivision of this state, that has been designated by the federal government as an interstate highway or that has been regularly maintained by this state or by any agency or political subdivision of this state and has been used continuously by the public for at least the last five years.
- 17. "Control" or "controlled" means a person who, through ownership, voting rights, power of attorney, proxy, management rights, operational rights or other rights, has the right to make decisions binding on an entity, whether a corporation, a partnership or any other entity.
- 18. "Corporation licensee" means a lawfully organized corporation that is registered with the Arizona corporation commission and that has an officer licensed as the designated broker pursuant to section 32-2125.
 - 19. "Department" means the state real estate department.
- 20. "Designated broker" means the natural person who is licensed as a broker under this chapter and who is either:
- (a) Designated to act on behalf of an employing real estate, cemetery or membership camping entity.
 - (b) Doing business as a sole proprietor.
- 21. "Developer" means a person who offers real property in a development for sale, lease or use, either immediately or in the future, on the person's own behalf or on behalf of another person, under this chapter. Developer does not include a person whose involvement with a development is limited to the listing of property within the development for sale, lease or use.
- 22. "Development" means any division, proposed division or use of real property that the department has authority to regulate, including subdivided and unsubdivided lands, cemeteries, condominiums, timeshares, membership campgrounds and stock cooperatives.
- 23. "Employing broker" means a person who is licensed or is required to be licensed as a:
 - (a) Broker entity pursuant to section 32-2125, subsection A.
- (b) Sole proprietorship if the sole proprietor is a broker licensed pursuant to this chapter.
- 24. "Fractional interest" means an undivided interest in improved or unimproved land, lots or parcels of any size created for the purpose of sale or lease and evidenced by any receipt, certificate, deed or other document conveying the interest. Undivided interests in land, lots or parcels created

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in the names of a husband and wife as community property, joint tenants or tenants in common, or in the names of other persons who, acting together as part of a single transaction, acquire the interests without a purpose to divide the interests for present or future sale or lease shall be deemed to constitute only one fractional interest.

- 25. "Improved lot or parcel" means a lot or parcel of a subdivision upon which lot or parcel there is a residential, commercial or industrial building or concerning which a contract has been entered into between a subdivider and a purchaser that obligates the subdivider directly, or indirectly through a building contractor, to complete construction of a residential, commercial or industrial building on the lot or parcel within two years from the date on which the contract of sale for the lot is entered into.
- 26. "Inactive license" means a license issued pursuant to article 2 of this chapter to a licensee who is on inactive status during the current license period and who is not engaged by or on behalf of a broker.
- 27. "Lease" or "leasing" includes any lease, whether it is the sole, the principal or any incidental part of a transaction.
- 28. "License" means the whole or part of any agency permit, certificate, approval, registration, public report, charter or similar form of permission required by this chapter.
- 29. "License period" means the $\frac{\mathsf{two}\ \mathsf{year}}{\mathsf{tot}}$ period beginning with the date of original issue or renewal of a particular license AND ENDING ON THE EXPIRATION DATE, IF ANY.
- 30. "Licensee" means a person to whom a license for the current license period has been granted under any provision of this chapter, and, for purposes of section 32-2153, subsection A, shall include original license applicants.
- 31. "Limited liability company licensee" means a lawfully organized limited liability company that has a member or manager who is a natural person and who is licensed as the designated broker pursuant to section 32-2125.
- 32. "Lot reservation" means an expression of interest by a prospective purchaser in buying at some time in the future a subdivided or unsubdivided lot, unit or parcel in this state. In all cases, a subsequent affirmative action by the prospective purchaser must be taken to create a contractual obligation to purchase.
- 33. "Master planned community" means a development that consists of two or more separately platted subdivisions and that is either subject to a master declaration of covenants, conditions or restrictions, is subject to restrictive covenants sufficiently uniform in character to clearly indicate a general scheme for improvement or development of real property or is governed or administered by a master owner's association.
 - 34. "Member" means a member of the real estate advisory board.

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- 35. "Membership camping broker" means a person, other than a salesperson, who, for compensation:
- (a) Sells, purchases, lists, exchanges or leases membership camping contracts.
- (b) Offers to sell, purchase, exchange or lease membership camping contracts.
- (c) Negotiates or offers, attempts or agrees to negotiate the sale, purchase, exchange or lease of membership camping contracts.
- (d) Advertises or holds himself out as being engaged in the business of selling, buying, exchanging or leasing membership camping contracts or counseling or advising regarding membership camping contracts.
- (e) Assists or directs in the procuring of prospects calculated or intended to result in the sale, purchase, listing, exchange or lease of membership camping contracts.
- (f) Performs any of the foregoing acts as an employee or on behalf of a membership camping operator or membership contract owner.
- 36. "Membership camping contract" means an agreement offered or sold in this state evidencing a purchaser's right or license to use the camping or outdoor recreation facilities of a membership camping operator and includes a membership that provides for this use.
- . "Membership camping operator" means an enterprise, other than one that is tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code of 1986, as amended, that solicits membership paid for by a fee or periodic payments and has as one of its purposes camping or outdoor recreation including the use of camping sites primarily by members. Membership camping operator does not include camping or recreational trailer parks that are open to the general public and that contain camping sites rented for a per use fee or a mobile home park.
- 38. "Membership camping salesperson" means a natural person who acts on the person's own behalf or through and on behalf of a professional limited liability company or a professional corporation engaged by or on behalf of a licensed membership camping or real estate broker, or by or on behalf of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company that is licensed as a membership camping or real estate broker, to perform any act or participate in any transaction in a manner included in the definition of membership camping broker.
- 39. "Partnership licensee" means a partnership with a managing general partner who is licensed as the designated broker pursuant to section 32-2125.
- 40. "Permanent access", as required under article 4 of this chapter, means permanent access from the subdivision to any federal, state or county highway.
- 41. "Perpetual or endowed-care cemetery" means a cemetery wherein lots or other burial spaces are sold or transferred under the representation that the cemetery will receive "perpetual" or "endowed" care as defined in this

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section free of further cost to the purchaser after payment of the original purchase price for the lot, burial space or interment right.

- 42. "Perpetual-care" or "endowed-care" means the maintenance and care of all places where interments have been made of the trees, shrubs, roads, streets and other improvements and embellishments contained within or forming a part of the cemetery. This shall not include the maintenance or repair of monuments, tombs, copings or other man-made ornaments as associated with individual burial spaces.
- 43. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership or company and any other form of multiple organization for carrying on business, foreign or domestic.
- 44. "Private cemetery" means a cemetery or place that is not licensed under article 6 of this chapter, where burials or interments of human remains are made, in which sales or transfers of interment rights or burial plots are not made to the public and in which not more than ten interments or burials occur annually.
- 45. "Promotion" or "promotional practice" means advertising and any other act, practice, device or scheme to induce directly or indirectly any person to enter into any obligation or acquire any title or interest in or use of real property subject to this chapter, including meetings with prospective purchasers, arrangements for prospective purchasers to visit real property, travel allowances and discount, exchange, refund and cancellation privileges.
- 46. "Real estate" includes leasehold-interests and any estates in land as defined in title 33, chapter 2, articles 1 and 2, regardless of whether located in this state.
- 47. "Real estate broker" means a person, other than a salesperson, who, for another and for compensation:
- (a) Sells, exchanges, purchases, rents or leases real estate or timeshare interests.
- (b) Offers to sell, exchange, purchase, rent or lease real estate or timeshare interests.
- (c) Negotiates or offers, attempts or agrees to negotiate the sale, exchange, purchase, rental or leasing of real estate or timeshare interests.
- (d) Lists or offers, attempts or agrees to list real estate or timeshare interests for sale, lease or exchange.
- (e) Auctions or offers, attempts or agrees to auction real estate or timeshare interests.
- (f) Buys, sells, offers to buy or sell or otherwise deals in options on real estate or timeshare interests or improvements to real estate or timeshare interests.
- (g) Collects or offers, attempts or agrees to collect rent for the use of real estate or timeshare interests.
- (h) Advertises or holds himself out as being engaged in the business of buying, selling, exchanging, renting or leasing real estate or timeshare

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interests or counseling or advising regarding real estate or timeshare interests.

- (i) Assists or directs in the procuring of prospects, calculated to result in the sale, exchange, leasing or rental of real estate or timeshare interests.
- (j) Assists or directs in the negotiation of any transaction calculated or intended to result in the sale, exchange, leasing or rental of real estate or timeshare interests.
- (k) Incident to the sale of real estate negotiates or offers, attempts or agrees to negotiate a loan secured or to be secured by any mortgage or other encumbrance upon or transfer of real estate or timeshare interests subject to section 32-2155, subsection C. This subdivision does not apply to mortgage brokers as defined in and subject to title 6, chapter 9, article 1.
- (1) Engages in the business of assisting or offering to assist another in filing an application for the purchase or lease of, or in locating or entering upon, lands owned by the state or federal government.
- (m) Claims, demands, charges, receives, collects or contracts for the collection of an advance fee in connection with any employment enumerated in this section, including employment undertaken to promote the sale or lease of real property by advance fee listing, by furnishing rental information to a prospective tenant for a fee paid by the prospective tenant, by advertisement or by any other offering to sell, lease, exchange or rent real property or selling kits connected therewith. This shall not include the activities of any communications media of general circulation or coverage not primarily engaged in the advertisement of real estate or any communications media activities that are specifically exempt from applicability of this article under section 32-2121.
- (n) Engages in any of the acts listed in subdivisions (a) through (m) of this paragraph for the sale or lease of other than real property if a real property sale or lease is a part of, contingent on or ancillary to the transaction.
- (o) Performs any of the acts listed in subdivisions (a) through (m) of this paragraph as an employee of, or in behalf of, the owner of real estate, or interest in the real estate, or improvements affixed on the real estate, for compensation.
- 48. "Real estate sales contract" means an agreement in which one party agrees to convey title to real estate to another party upon the satisfaction of specified conditions set forth in the contract.
- 49. "Real estate salesperson" means a natural person who acts on the person's own behalf or through and on behalf of a professional limited liability company or a professional corporation engaged by or on behalf of a licensed real estate broker, or by or on behalf of a limited liability company, partnership or corporation that is licensed as a real estate broker, to perform any act or participate in any transaction in a manner included in the definition of real estate broker subject to section 32-2155.

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- 50. "Sale" or "lease" includes every disposition, transfer, option or offer or attempt to dispose of or transfer real property, or an interest, use or estate in the real property, including the offering of the property as a prize or gift if a monetary charge or consideration for whatever purpose is required.
- 51. "Salesperson", when used without modification, means a natural person who acts on the person's own behalf or through and on behalf of a professional limited liability company or a professional corporation licensed under this chapter or any person required to be licensed as a salesperson under this chapter.
- 52. "School" means a person or entity that offers a course of study towards completion of the education requirements leading to licensure or renewal of licensure under this chapter.
- 53. "Stock cooperative" means a corporation to which all of the following apply:
- (a) The corporation is formed or used to hold title to improved real property in fee simple or for a term of years.
- (b) All or substantially all of the shareholders of the corporation each receives RECEIVE a right of exclusive occupancy in a portion of the real property to which the corporation holds title.
- (c) The right of occupancy may only be transferred with the concurrent transfer of the shares of stock in the corporation held by the person having the right of occupancy.
- 54. "Subdivider" means any person who offers for sale or lease six or more lots, parcels or fractional interests in a subdivision or who causes land to be subdivided into a subdivision for the subdivider or for others, or who undertakes to develop a subdivision, but does not include a public agency or officer authorized by law to create subdivisions.
 - 55. "Subdivision" or "subdivided lands":
- (a) Means improved or unimproved land or lands divided or proposed to be divided for the purpose of sale or lease, whether immediate or future, into six or more lots, parcels or fractional interests.
- (b) Includes a stock cooperative, lands divided or proposed to be divided as part of a common promotional plan and residential condominiums as defined in title 33, chapter 9.
 - (c) Does not include:
 - (i) Leasehold offerings of one year or less.
- (ii) The division or proposed division of land located in this state into lots or parcels each of which is or will be thirty-six acres or more in area including to the centerline of dedicated roads or easements, if any, contiguous to the lot or parcel.
- (iii) The leasing of agricultural lands or apartments, offices, stores, hotels, motels, pads or similar space within an apartment building, industrial building, rental recreational vehicle community, rental manufactured home community, rental mobile home park or commercial building.

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- (iv) The subdivision into or development of parcels, plots or fractional portions within the boundaries of a cemetery that has been formed and approved pursuant to this chapter.
- 56. "Timeshare" or "timeshare property" means real property ownership or right of occupancy in real property pursuant to article 9 of this chapter. For the purposes of this chapter, a timeshare is not a security unless it meets the definition of a security under section 44-1801.
 - 57. "Trustee" means:
- (a) A person designated under section 32-2194.27 to act as a trustee for an endowment-care cemetery fund.
- (b) A person holding bare legal title to real property under a subdivision trust. A trustee shall not be deemed to be a developer, subdivider, broker or salesperson within this chapter.
- 58. "Unimproved lot or parcel" means a lot or parcel of a subdivision that is not an improved lot or parcel.
- 59. "Unsubdivided lands" means land or lands divided or proposed to be divided for the purpose of sale or lease, whether immediate or future, into six or more lots, parcels or fractional interests and the lots or parcels are thirty-six acres or more each but less than one hundred sixty acres each, or that are offered, known or advertised under a common promotional plan for sale or lease, except that agricultural leases shall not be included in this definition.
 - Sec. 2. Section 32-2124, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2124. Qualifications of licensees
- A. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the commissioner shall require proof, through the application or otherwise, as the commissioner deems advisable with due regard to the interests of the public, as to the honesty, truthfulness, good character and competency of the applicant and shall require that the applicant has:
- 1. If for an original real estate broker's license, at least three years' actual experience as a licensed real estate salesperson or real estate broker during the five years immediately preceding the time of application.
- 2. If for an original cemetery broker's license, either a current real estate broker's license, or if the applicant does not have a current real estate broker's license, at least three years' actual experience as a cemetery salesperson or broker or as a licensed real estate salesperson or broker during the five years immediately preceding the time of application.
- 3. If for an original membership camping broker's license, either a current real estate broker's license, or if the applicant does not have a current real estate broker's license, at least three years' actual experience as a licensed membership camping salesperson or broker or as a licensed real estate salesperson or broker during the five years immediately preceding the time of application.

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- 4. If for any type of broker's or salesperson's license, not had a license denied within one year immediately preceding application in this state pursuant to section 32-2153 or a similar statute in any other state.
- 5. If for any type of broker's or salesperson's license, not had a license revoked within the two years immediately preceding application in this state pursuant to section 32-2153 or a similar statute in any other state.
- 6. If reapplying for a license that expired more than one year before the date of application, met all current education and experience requirements and retakes the examination the same as if the applicant were applying for the license for the first time.
- 7. If for a real estate, cemetery or membership camping broker's license, other than a renewal application, an equivalent amount of active experience within the immediately preceding five years in the field in which the applicant is applying for the broker's license, as a substitute for the licensed active experience otherwise required in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this subsection. The licensed active experience required may be met if the applicant can demonstrate to the commissioner's satisfaction that the applicant has an equivalent amount of experience in the past five years that, if the applicant had held a license, would have been sufficient to fulfill the licensed experience requirement.
- B. All applicants other than renewal applicants under section 32-2130 for a real estate salesperson's license shall show evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that they have completed a real estate salesperson's course, prescribed and approved by the commissioner, of at least ninety classroom hours, or its equivalent, of instruction in a real estate school certified by the commissioner and have satisfactorily passed an examination on the course. In no case shall the real estate salesperson's course completion or its equivalent be more than ten years before the date of application unless, at the time of application, the commissioner determines in the commissioner's discretion that the applicant has work experience in a real estate related field and education that together are equivalent to the prelicensure education requirement. The commissioner may waive all or a portion of the prelicensure course requirement, other than the twenty-seven hour Arizona specific course, for an applicant who holds a current real estate license in another state.
- C. All applicants other than renewal applicants under section 32-2130 for a real estate broker's license shall show evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that they have completed a real estate broker's course, prescribed and approved by the commissioner, of at least ninety classroom hours, or the equivalent, of instruction in a real estate school certified by the commissioner and have satisfactorily passed an examination on the course. In no case shall the real estate broker's course completion or its equivalent be more than ten years before the date of application unless, at the time of application, the commissioner determines in the commissioner's

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discretion that the applicant has work experience in a real estate related field and education that together are equivalent to the prelicensure education requirement. The commissioner may waive all or a portion of the prelicensure course requirement, other than the twenty-seven hour Arizona specific course, for an applicant who holds a current real estate license in another state.

- D. Prior to receiving any license provided for by this chapter, an applicant shall be at least eighteen years of age.
- E. The commissioner shall ascertain by written, electronic or any other examination method that an applicant for a real estate license has:
- 1. An appropriate knowledge of the English language, including reading, writing and spelling, and of arithmetical computations common to real estate practices.
- 2. At a minimum, an understanding of the general purpose and legal effect of any real estate practices, principles and related forms, including agency contracts, real estate contracts, deposit receipts, deeds, mortgages, deeds of trust, security agreements, bills of sale, land contracts of sale and property management, and of any other areas that the commissioner deems necessary and proper.
- 3. A general understanding of the obligations between principal and agent, the principles of real estate and business opportunity practice, the applicable canons of business ethics, the provisions of this chapter and rules made under this chapter.
- F. The commissioner shall ascertain by written, electronic or any other examination method that an applicant for a license as a cemetery broker or a cemetery salesperson has:
- 1. Appropriate knowledge of the English language, including reading, writing and spelling, and of elementary arithmetic.
 - 2. A general understanding of:
- (a) Cemetery associations, cemetery corporations and duties of cemetery directors and officers.
- (b) Plot ownership, deeds, certificates of ownership, contracts of sale, liens and leases.
- (c) Establishing, dedicating, maintaining, managing, operating, improving, preserving and conducting a cemetery.
- (d) The provisions of this chapter and rules made under this chapter relating to the organization and regulation of cemeteries and the licensing and regulation of cemetery brokers and cemetery salespersons.
- 3. A general understanding of the obligations between principal and agent, the principles of cemetery practice and the canons of business ethics pertaining to the operation of cemeteries and the sale of cemetery property.
- G. The commissioner shall ascertain by written, electronic or any other examination method that an applicant for a license as a membership camping broker or a membership camping salesperson has:

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- 1. An appropriate knowledge of the English language, including reading, writing and spelling, and of elementary arithmetic.
 - 2. A general understanding of:
- (a) The general purposes and legal effect of contracts and agency contracts.
- (b) Establishing, maintaining, managing and operating a membership campground.
- (c) The provisions of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter relating to the organization and regulation of membership campgrounds and the licensing and regulation of membership camping brokers and membership camping salespersons.
- 3. A general understanding of the obligations between principal and agent and the canons of business ethics pertaining to the operation and promotion of membership campgrounds.
- H. No renewal applicant for a real estate, cemetery or membership camping broker's or salesperson's license shall be required to submit to an examination if the application is made within twelve months after the license expires and the license is not cancelled, terminated or suspended at the time of application.
- I. The examination for a broker's license shall be more exacting and stringent and of a broader scope than the examination for a salesperson's license.
- J. An applicant for a real estate salesperson's or broker's license who currently holds at least an equivalent license in another state may be exempt from taking the national portion of the real estate examination if the applicant can demonstrate having previously passed a national examination within the past five years that is satisfactorily similar to the one administered by the department.
- K. Identification of each applicant whose licensing requirement was allowed to be met by an equivalent alternative pursuant to this section shall be included in the annual performance report presented by the board to the governor pursuant to section 32-2104.
- L. An applicant for an original real estate salesperson's license, after completion of the requirements of subsection B of this section and before activation of the person's license, shall provide certification to the department AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION evidencing completion of six hours of instruction in real estate contract law and contract writing. This instruction shall include participation by the applicant in the drafting of contracts to purchase real property, listing agreements and lease agreements.
- M. The commissioner shall not issue a license to a person who has been convicted of a felony offense and who is currently incarcerated for the conviction, paroled or under community supervision and under the supervision of a parole or community supervision officer or who is on probation as a result of the conviction.

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N. An applicant or licensee who wants to obtain a license specializing in sales of businesses after completion of the requirements of subsection B OR C of this section and before activation of the person's license shall provide certification to the department evidencing completion of twenty-four hours of instruction in business brokerage. This instruction shall include satisfactory proof of passing a test that is acceptable to the department.

Sec. 3. Section 32-2125, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2125. <u>Licenses for corporations, limited liability companies</u>

or partnerships ration limited

- A. A corporation, limited liability company or partnership applying for a broker's license for the entity shall designate a natural person who is licensed as a broker and who is an officer of the corporation, manager of the limited liability company if management of the limited liability company is vested in one or more managers, member of the limited liability company if management is vested in the members or partner of the partnership who shall act as designated broker. The license shall extend no authority to act as designated broker to any other person. This subsection does not apply to a corporation or limited liability company applying for a license under subsection B of this section. An entity's broker's license issued pursuant to this subsection shall conform to section 32-2129 RUN CONCURRENTLY WITH THE CORPORATION'S, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY'S OR PARTNERSHIP'S DESIGNATED BROKER'S LICENSE.
- B. An employing broker may engage the services of salespersons and associate brokers who act through and on behalf of professional corporations or professional limited liability companies that are licensed by the department. A designated broker who acts on behalf of an employing real estate entity is permitted to become a professional corporation or a professional limited liability corporation. Any person so engaged shall be separately licensed. The department shall issue to or renew a license under this subsection only for a professional corporation or a professional limited liability corporation whose shareholders, members or managers hold active real estate licenses. A corporation licensed under this subsection shall meet the requirements of title 10, chapter 20. A limited liability company licensed under this subsection shall meet the requirements of title 29, chapter 4, article 11. A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION OR PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY SHALL NOT BE LICENSED AS AN EMPLOYING BROKER.
- C. The license of a corporation or limited liability company licensed under subsection B of this section terminates only upon the death of a shareholder, member or manager or any other change of shareholders, members or managers, except that any remaining shareholder, member or manager who was an authorized officer and shareholder prior to the change remains authorized to continue business under the corporation's or limited liability company's license for up to an additional ninety days pending the issuance of a new license.

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- D. The commissioner may suspend, revoke or deny renewal or the right of renewal of the license of a corporation, limited liability company or partnership licensed under this section if the corporation, limited liability company or partnership or any shareholder, officer, agent, partner or member of a corporation, limited liability company or partnership violates any of the provisions of this chapter.
- E. Nothing in this section shall be construed to enlarge the functions of salespersons, to permit salespersons to assume any of the responsibilities or functions of brokers or to relieve the commissioner of any regulatory power or authority over salespersons or brokers.
- F. A corporation, limited liability company or partnership licensed under subsection A of this section or a professional corporation or professional limited liability company licensed under subsection B of this section is exempt from the education requirements imposed pursuant to this chapter. The commissioner shall not charge a license fee or a renewal fee pursuant to section 32-2132 to a corporation, professional corporation, limited liability company, professional limited liability company or partnership licensed or approved under this section.
- G. A corporation, limited liability company or partnership licensed under this section shall report to the department within ten days:
- 1. Any change in officers, directors, members, managers or partners or any change of control of the entity.
- 2. Any amendment to its articles of incorporation or organization or to its partnership agreement.
- 3. If a corporation, when a person becomes an owner of ten per cent or more of the stock in the corporation.
- 4. THE DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OR PARTNERSHIP.
 - Sec. 4. Section 32-2129, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2129. Advance payment of license fees
- A. All license fees shall be paid in advance,— and shall be the same regardless of the time of the year when the license is issued.
- B. If the license fees or other fees that relate to licensure are paid with a check that is not honored by the financial institution on which it is written, the department may deny or cancel the license.
 - C. There is established a two year staggered license period.
- D. C. An original license shall be for a period of two years up to and including the last day of the month in which the license was granted. A renewal license shall be for a period commencing on EFFECTIVE AS OF the date of issuance, but no earlier than the first day after the expiration of the previous license. REGARDLESS OF THE DATE OF ISSUANCE, THE RENEWED LICENSE IS FOR A FOUR YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE PREVIOUS LICENSE.
 - E. D. License applicants shall pay fees as specified in this chapter.

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Sec. 5. Section 32-2130, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2130. Renewal of licenses

A. A license may be renewed in a timely manner by filing an application for renewal on a form provided IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED by the commissioner, by paying the renewal fee specified in this chapter if that fee is paid on or before the expiration date of the license, and by presenting evidence of attendance at a school certified by the commissioner during the preceding license period of twenty-four clock hours CREDIT HOURS IN THE FIRST RENEWAL AND FORTY-EIGHT CREDIT HOURS IN SUBSEQUENT RENEWALS, or a lesser number of clock-hours CREDIT HOURS prescribed by the commissioner, of real estate oriented continuing education courses prescribed and approved by the commissioner. If an applicant is renewing a license within one year after it expired, the applicant may apply continuing education hours completed after the expiration toward the continuing education required for renewal. Each renewal application shall contain, as applicable, the same information required of an original applicant pursuant to section 32-2123. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS SHALL BE ACCRUED AT A RATE OF TWENTY-FOUR CREDIT HOURS DURING EACH TWENTY-FOUR MONTH PERIOD OF LICENSURE. The department shall maintain a current list of approved courses. The commissioner may withdraw or deny certification or approval of educational courses for good cause. The commissioner may waive all or a portion of the continuing education requirement for good cause shown. Cemetery brokers and salespersons and membership camping brokers and salespersons are exempt from the educational requirements of this section. Nothing in this section shall require a licensee to attend department produced or sponsored courses if the approved courses are otherwise available. If the renewal applicant is retaining the specialization in sales of businesses designation, the applicant is required to complete an additional twelve clock hours of basic business brokerage courses and pass a school test for each course for the first renewal. The twelve clock hours are in addition to the clock hours prescribed by the commissioner for license renewal pursuant to this subsection. Subsequent license renewals for applicants selling businesses do not require a test.

- B. IF AN APPLICANT IS RENEWING A LICENSE WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER IT EXPIRED, THE APPLICANT MAY APPLY CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS COMPLETED AFTER THE EXPIRATION TOWARD THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL.
- C. EACH RENEWAL APPLICATION SHALL CONTAIN, AS APPLICABLE, THE SAME INFORMATION REQUIRED IN AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-2123.
- D. CEMETERY BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS AND MEMBERSHIP CAMPING BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
- E. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION REQUIRES A LICENSEE TO ATTEND DEPARTMENT PRODUCED OR SPONSORED COURSES IF APPROVED COURSES ARE OTHERWISE AVAILABLE.
- F. IF A RENEWAL APPLICANT IS RETAINING THE SPECIALIZATION IN SALES OF BUSINESSES DESIGNATION, THE APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE BUSINESS

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BROKERAGE COURSES FOR ONE-HALF OF THE CREDIT HOURS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LICENSE RENEWAL PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

- B. G. Between the expiration date of the license and the date of renewal of the license, the rights of the licensee under the license expire. While the license is expired it is unlawful for a person to act or attempt or offer to act in a manner included in the definition of a real estate, cemetery or membership camping broker or salesperson. If the license of an employing broker expires under this subsection, the licenses of persons who are employed by the employing broker shall be severed from the employing broker on the license expiration date of the employing broker. These persons may be rehired on renewal of the employing broker's license. The department shall terminate a license that has been expired for more than one year.
- C. H. No more than one year after the license expiration date, the department shall renew a license without requiring the applicant to submit to an examination if the applicant holds HELD a license that is WAS not canceled or suspended at the time of application EXPIRATION. The license period for a license renewed pursuant to this subsection commences the day after the expiration date of the expired license. Except as provided in section 32-2131, subsection A, paragraph 4 or 6, an applicant whose license has been terminated or revoked does not qualify for license renewal.
- D. I. Any employee or immediate family member of any employee of this state who, pursuant to section 32-2110 or any other law, rule or requirement, is prohibited from using a license issued under this chapter shall have, on the request of the employee or family member, the license placed on inactive status, shall have the right to renew the license and shall not be required to pay further fees until the employee or family member is again eligible to use the license. Renewal fees for the license shall not be required for only as long as the employee or family member is prohibited from using the license.
- E. J. The department shall not renew the license of a person who has been convicted of a felony offense and who is currently incarcerated for the conviction, paroled or under community supervision and under the supervision of a parole or community supervision officer or who is on probation as a result of the conviction. This subsection does not limit the commissioner's authority and discretion to deny the renewal for any other reason pursuant to this chapter.
 - Sec. 6. Section 32-2131, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2131. Reinstatement of license
- A. The commissioner may reinstate a license that was issued under this article and that expired or was canceled, terminated, suspended or revoked as follows:
- 1. For a license that expired pursuant to section 32-2130, subsection B G, by renewal application pursuant to this article.
- 2. For a license canceled pursuant to section 32-2126, subsection A or section 32-2129, subsection B or any other lawful authority:

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- (a) If within the license period, by reapplication and payment of applicable fees.
- (b) If after expiration of the license, by original or renewal application, as appropriate, pursuant to this article.
- 3. For a license terminated pursuant to section 32-2188, subsection I, by:
 - (a) Repayment in full to the real estate recovery fund.
 - (b) Original application pursuant to this article.
- (c) Providing evidence that the judgment that caused the recovery fund payment has been fully satisfied.
- 4. For a license terminated pursuant to section 32-2130, subsection $\frac{B}{C}$, by original application pursuant to this article.
- 5. For a license suspended pursuant to section 32-2153, 32-2154 or 32-2157 or any other lawful authority:
- (a) If suspended for failure on the part of the licensee to meet procedural or educational requirements for maintaining the license, and the requirements have subsequently been fully met, and the suspension has been vacated:
- (i) If within the license period, by reapplication and payment of applicable fees.
- (ii) If after expiration of the license, by original or renewal application, as appropriate, pursuant to this article.
- (b) If suspended by order of the commissioner for a specified length of time, and the suspension period has ended:
- (i) If within the license period, by reapplication and payment of applicable fees.
- (ii) If after expiration of the license, by original or renewal application, as appropriate, pursuant to this article.
- 6. For a license revoked pursuant to section 32-2153 or any other lawful authority, by original application pursuant to this article.
- 7. For a license suspended or revoked by order of the commissioner and this order is subsequently vacated as to the licensee, by reapplication only. No fees may be assessed. The reapplication may be initiated by the department on behalf of the licensee.
- B. Except for canceled licenses, reinstatement of a license pursuant to subsection A of this section shall not be made for any licensee who is the subject of a department investigation into alleged violations of this chapter or of a pending administrative proceeding pursuant to article 3 of this chapter.
- C. This section shall not be interpreted to lessen or reduce the qualifications otherwise required of license applicants under this article or the department's authority to deny a person's application for license reinstatement who does not otherwise meet all of the requirements.

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Sec. 7. Section 32-2132, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2132. Fees

- A. Except as provided in subsection D, the following fees shall be charged which shall not be refunded by the commissioner after issuance of a receipt for payment:
- 1. Broker's examination application fee, not less than thirty-five dollars and not more than one hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 2. Broker's examination fee, not less than thirty-five dollars and not more than one hundred dollars.
- 3. Broker's license, not less than seventy-five dollars and not more than two hundred fifty dollars.
- 4. Broker's renewal fee, not less than seventy-five ONE HUNDRED dollars and not more than two FOUR hundred fifty dollars.
- 5. Salesperson's examination application fee, not less than fifteen dollars and not more than seventy-five dollars.
- 6. Salesperson's examination fee, not less than fifteen dollars and not more than fifty dollars.
- 7. Salesperson's license fee, not less than thirty-five dollars and not more than one hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 8. Salesperson's renewal fee, not less than $\frac{\text{thirty-five}}{\text{five}}$ SIXTY dollars and not more than $\frac{\text{one}}{\text{one}}$ TWO hundred $\frac{\text{twenty-five}}{\text{twenty-five}}$ dollars.
- 9. Branch office broker's license fee or renewal thereof, not less than $\frac{\text{thirty-five}}{\text{dollars}}$ SIXTY dollars and not more than $\frac{\text{one}}{\text{one}}$ TWO hundred $\frac{\text{twenty-five}}{\text{dollars}}$.
- 10. Change of name and address of licensee on records of the department, not more than twenty dollars.
 - 11. Duplicate license fee, five dollars.
 - 12. Reinstatement of license within license period, five dollars.
- 13. Each certificate of correctness of copy of records or documents on file with the department, one dollar, plus the cost to the department for reproducing the records or documents.
- 14. Temporary broker's license fee, not less than fifteen dollars and not more than fifty dollars.
- 15. Temporary cemetery salesperson's license fee, not less than fifteen dollars and not more than fifty dollars.
- 16. Membership camping salesperson certificate of convenience fee, not less than fifteen dollars and not more than fifty dollars.
- B. No corporation, partnership or limited liability company shall be assessed a fee for the issuance of a broker's license.
- C. The commissioner may contract for the processing of applications and the examination of applicants for licensure. The contract may provide for specific fees or a reasonable range for fees as determined by the commissioner for examination applications and examinations to be paid directly to the contractor by the applicant. These fees may not exceed the amounts prescribed in subsection A, paragraphs 1, 2, 5 and 6.

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D. For good cause shown the commissioner may refund fees previously collected.

Sec. 8. Section 32-2136, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2136. <u>Broker management clinic</u>

- A. The department shall determine the instructor qualifications for teaching broker management clinics and the course content of broker management clinics for persons required to attend these clinics pursuant to subsection C of this section.
- B. A broker management clinic shall include instruction on department audits and on the obligations and responsibilities of designated brokers. A broker management clinic shall address record keeping requirements, trust fund accounts, advertising and promotions, listing agreements, contracts, fiduciary duties, material disclosures, department investigations and employee supervision and broker responsibilities. A broker management clinic may be designed to address property management activities or sales activities, or both.
- C. An applicant for an original real estate broker's license shall attend a broker management clinic before activating the license. A broker shall attend a broker management clinic before becoming a designated broker, unless the broker has attended a broker management clinic during the preceding twenty-three months. All active designated real estate brokers shall attend a broker management clinic once during every two year licensing period EACH TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS OF LICENSURE after their initial attendance.
- D. Attendance at a broker management clinic constitutes three clock hours CREDIT HOURS of real estate oriented education pursuant to section 32-2130, subsection A.
 - Sec. 9. Section 32-2153, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2153. Grounds for denial, suspension or revocation of licenses: letters of concern: provisional license: retention of jurisdiction by commissioner: definitions
- A. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a license, deny the issuance of a license, issue a letter of concern to a licensee, issue a provisional license or deny the renewal or the right of renewal of a license issued under the provisions of this chapter if it appears that the holder or applicant, within five years immediately preceding, in the performance of or attempt to perform any acts authorized by the license or by this chapter, has:
- 1. Pursued a course of misrepresentation or made false promises, either directly or through others, whether acting in the role of a licensee or a principal in a transaction.
- 2. Acted for more than one party in a transaction without the knowledge or consent of all parties to the transaction.
- 3. Disregarded or violated any of the provisions of this chapter or any rules adopted by the commissioner.

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- 4. Knowingly authorized, directed, connived at or aided in the publication, advertisement, distribution or circulation of any material false or misleading statement or representation concerning the licensee's business or any land, cemetery property, subdivision or membership campground or camping contract offered for sale in this or any other state.
- 5. Knowingly used the term "real estate broker", "cemetery broker" or "membership camping broker" without legal right to do so.
 - 6. Employed any unlicensed salesperson or unlicensed associate broker.
- 7. Accepted compensation as a licensee for the performance of any of the acts specified in this chapter from any person other than the licensed broker to whom the licensee is licensed, the licensed professional corporation of which the licensee is an officer and shareholder or the licensed professional limited liability company of which the licensee is a member or manager.
- 8. Represented or attempted to represent a broker other than the broker to whom the salesperson or associate broker is licensed.
- 9. Failed, within a reasonable time, to account for or to remit any monies, to surrender to the rightful owner any documents or other valuable property coming into the licensee's possession and that belongs to others, or to issue an appraisal report on real property or cemetery property in which the licensee has an interest, unless the nature and extent of the interest are fully disclosed in the report.
- 10. Paid or received any rebate, profit, compensation or commission in violation of this chapter.
- 11. Induced any party to a contract to break the contract for the purpose of substituting a new contract with the same or a different principal, if the substitution is motivated by the personal gain of the licensee.
- 12. Placed a sign on any property offering it for sale or for rent without the written authority of the owner or the owner's authorized agent.
- 13. Solicited, either directly or indirectly, prospects for the sale, lease or use of real property, cemetery property or membership camping contracts through a promotion of a speculative nature involving a game of chance or risk or through conducting lotteries or contests that are not specifically authorized under the provisions of this chapter.
- 14. Failed to pay to the commissioner the biennial renewal fee as specified in this chapter promptly and before the time specified.
- 15. Failed to keep an escrow or trust account or other record of funds deposited with the licensee relating to a real estate transaction.
- 16. Commingled the money or other property of the licensee's principal or client with the licensee's own or converted that money or property to the licensee or another.
- 17. Failed or refused upon demand to produce any document, contract, book, record, information, compilation or report that is in the licensee's possession or that the licensee is required by law to maintain concerning any

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real estate, cemetery or membership camping business, services, activities or transactions involving or conducted by the licensee for inspection by the commissioner or the commissioner's representative.

- 18. Failed to maintain a complete record of each transaction which comes within the provisions of this chapter.
- 19. Violated the federal fair housing law, the Arizona civil rights law or any local ordinance of a similar nature.
- 20. Tendered to a buyer a wood infestation report in connection with the transfer of residential real property or an interest in residential real property knowing that wood infestation exists or that the wood infestation report was inaccurate or false as of the date of the tender or that an inspection was not done in conjunction with the preparation of the wood infestation report.
- 21. As a licensed broker, failed to exercise reasonable supervision over the activities of salespersons, associate brokers or others under the broker's employ or failed to exercise reasonable supervision and control over the activities for which a license is required of a corporation, limited liability company or partnership on behalf of which the broker acts as designated broker under section 32-2125.
- 22. Demonstrated negligence in performing any act for which a license is required.
- 23. Sold or leased a property to a buyer or lessee that was not the property represented to the buyer or lessee.
 - 24. Violated any condition or term of a commissioner's order.
- 25. Signed the name of another person on any document or form without the express written consent of the person.
- 26. AS A LICENSED SCHOOL, FAILED TO EXERCISE REASONABLE SUPERVISION OVER THE ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR AN OWNER, DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATOR OR INSTRUCTOR IN THE SCHOOL'S EMPLOY.
- B. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a license, deny the issuance of a license, issue a letter of concern to a licensee, issue a provisional license or deny the renewal or the right of renewal of a license issued under the provisions of this chapter when it appears that the holder or applicant has:
- 1. Procured or attempted to procure a license under the provisions of this chapter for the holder or applicant or another by fraud, misrepresentation or deceit, or by filing an original or renewal application which is false or misleading.
- 2. Been convicted in a court of competent jurisdiction in this or any other state of a felony or of any crime of forgery, theft, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, a crime of moral turpitude or any other like offense.
 - 3. Made any substantial misrepresentation.
- 4. Made any false promises of a character likely to influence, persuade or induce.

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- 5. Been guilty of any conduct, whether of the same or a different character than specified in this section, which constitutes fraud or dishonest dealings.
- 6. Engaged in the business of a real estate, cemetery or membership camping broker or real estate, cemetery or membership camping salesperson without holding a license as prescribed in this chapter.
- 7. Not shown that the holder or applicant is a person of honesty, truthfulness and good character.
- 8. Demonstrated incompetence to perform any duty or requirement of a licensee under or arising from this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, "incompetence" means a lack of basic knowledge or skill appropriate to the type of license the person holds or a failure to appreciate the probable consequences of the licensee's action or inaction.
- 9. Violated the terms of any criminal or administrative order, decree or sentence.
- 10. Violated any federal or state law, regulation or rule that relates to real estate or securities or that involves forgery, theft, extortion, fraud, substantial misrepresentation, dishonest dealings or violence against another person or failure to deal fairly with any party to a transaction that materially and adversely affected the transaction. This paragraph applies equally to violations of which the licensee was convicted in any lawful federal or state tribunal and to any admissions made in any settlement agreement by the licensee to violations.
- 11. Failed to respond in the course of an investigation or audit by providing documents or written statements.
- C. A judgment based on a court's finding or stipulation of fraud by a licensee following a trial on the merits or a criminal conviction of a licensee that results in a payment from the real estate recovery fund is prima facie evidence of a violation and grounds for discipline under this section.
- D. The commissioner may deny, suspend or revoke the issuance of a license upon application by a corporation, a limited liability company or a partnership if it appears that an owner, officer, director, member, manager, partner, stockholder owning ten per cent or more of the stock in the corporation or limited liability company or person exercising control of the entity is a current or former licensee whose license as a broker or a salesperson has been denied, suspended or revoked.
- E. The lapsing or suspension of a license by operation of law or by order or decision of the commissioner or a court of law or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the commissioner of jurisdiction to do any of the following:
- 1. Proceed with any investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against the licensee.
- 2. Render a decision suspending or revoking the license, or denying the renewal or right of renewal of the license.

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- 3. Assess a civil penalty pursuant to section 32-2160.01.
- F. For the purposes of this section:
- 1. "Letter of concern" means an advisory letter to notify a licensee that, while the conduct or evidence does not warrant other disciplinary action, the commissioner believes that the licensee should modify or eliminate certain practices and that continuation of the activities may result in further disciplinary action against the licensee.
- 2. "Provisional license" means a license that the department issues and that allows a licensee to practice as a salesperson or broker subject to either a consent order as prescribed in section 32-2153.01 or the commissioner's terms, conditions and restrictions.
- Sec. 10. Section 32-2160.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2160.01. Civil penalties

- A. Any broker or salesperson LICENSEE who is subject to the jurisdiction of the department and who has violated any provision of this chapter or any rule or order adopted or issued by the commissioner, who has deviated substantially from the provisions of a public report, or who has engaged in any unlawful practices defined in section 44-1522 with respect to the sale or lease of either subdivided lands or unsubdivided lands may be assessed a civil penalty by the commissioner, after a hearing, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars for each infraction.
- B. Actions to recover penalties assessed pursuant to this chapter shall be brought by the attorney general in the name of the state in the superior court in the county in which the violation occurred or in a county in which the commissioner maintains an office. When the commissioner has revoked a license OR WITHDRAWN CERTIFICATION OR APPROVAL OF A SCHOOL, EDUCATIONAL COURSE OR REAL ESTATE INSTRUCTOR and assessed civil penalties that remain unpaid, if judicial review has not been sought under title 12, chapter 7, article 6, a certified copy of any such commissioner's order requiring the payment of civil penalties may be filed in the office of the clerk of the superior court. The clerk shall treat the commissioner's order in the same manner as a judgment of the superior court. A commissioner's order so filed has the same effect as a judgment of the superior court and may be recorded, enforced or satisfied in like manner. No filing fee is required under this section.

Sec. 11. Retroactivity

This act is effective retroactively to from and after June 30, 2007.

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